

## Message Text

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ORIGIN BIB-01

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DRAFTED BY BIB:GJACOBS:KLB  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMCONSUL MUNICH PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, UR

SUBJECT: BBC AND DW RECEPTION IN MOSCOW

REF: MUNICH 01237

1. BIB HAS QUERIED DIRECTLY KNOWLEDGEABLE BBC AND DW OFFICIALS CONCERNING RECEPTION THEIR RUSSIAN LANGUAGE BROADCASTS. BOTH STATE THAT BROADCASTS CONTINUE TO BE FREE OF JAMMING AND THAT RECEPTION IS GENERALLY GOOD IN MOSCOW AND THROUGHOUT MUCH OF EUROPEAN USSR. THIS BASED ON ALMOST DAILY MONITORING OBSERVATIONS MADE IN MOSCOW FOR BOTH BBC AND DW AND UPON RECENT IN-TARGET TECHNICAL SURVEY CONDUCTED BY BBC.

2. CAREFUL STUDY OF RL AUDIENCE RESEARCH BACKGROUND REPORT 4-78 AND OF ON-AIR SCHEDULES OF VARIOUS BROADCASTERS  
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SUGGESTS THAT REFERENCES TO 13, 16 AND 25 METER BANDS MAY HAVE BEEN MEANT BY SOURCE TO APPLY ONLY TO RL. NEITHER BBC NOR DW USE FREQUENCIES IN THESE BANDS DURING MORNING BROADCASTS, AND EXCEPT FOR A SINGLE DW FREQUENCY IN 25 METER BAND, ALL FREQUENCIES USED FOR EVENING TRANSMISSIONS ARE IN 49, 41 AND 31 METER BANDS.

3. AS CONGEN AND RFE/RL MANAGEMENT ARE AWARE, EVER SINCE LIFTING OF JAMMING ON VOA, BBC AND DW IN 1973, THERE HAVE BEEN RECURRING REPORTS FROM LISTENERS IN THE SOVIET UNION OF "RESUMPTION" OF JAMMING OF ONE OR MORE OF THESE STATIONS. INVARIABLY, SUCH REPORTS HAVE PROVED ATTRIBUTABLE TO MISPERCEPTIONS, USUALLY BASED ON MISTAKING "SPILLOVER" OF JAMMING FROM NEARBY FREQUENCIES FOR THE REAL THING. BIB ASSUMES SOURCE IS PERSON WITHOUT TECHNICAL SKILLS NEEDED TO MAKE AUTHORITATIVE DETERMINATION ABOUT JAMMING CHARACTERISTICS.

4. BIB IS AWARE THAT AUDIENCE RESEARCH REPORTS ARE NOT EVALUATED BY ISSUING OFFICE ACCORDING TO TECHNICAL OR OTHER EXTERNAL CRITERIA. FAR FROM DETRACTING FROM THEIR VALUE, THIS ACTUALLY ENHANCES IT, SINCE RECIPIENTS IN MAKING THEIR OWN EVALUATIONS CAN ASSUME THAT THEY ARE GETTING RAW, SPONTANEOUS DATA AS GIVEN BY SOURCE, WITHOUT REGARD TO EXTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS. IN FUTURE, HOWEVER, AUDIENCE RESEARCH OFFICE MAY WISH, FOR BENEFIT OF OTHERS, TO SLUG SUCH REPORTS AS "UNEVALUATED INFORMATION."

5. RL LANGUAGE SCHEDULE FOR SPRING TRANSMISSION PERIOD JUST RECEIVED BY BIB. DATA BEING SENT IN SEPARATE MESSAGE TO EMBASSY MOSCOW TOGETHER WITH REQUEST FOR MONITORING OF RL BROADCASTS.  
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6. REQUEST CONSULATE MAKE THIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO BUCHAN, AND THAT HE PASS TO RL AUDIENCE RESEARCH IN PARIS.

7. ROBERTS REPLYING TO BUCHAN MEMORANDUM OF MARCH 7. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROPAGANDA, MONITORING, RADIO BROADCASTING, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE068643  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** GJACOBS:KLB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**To:** MUNICH  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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